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written July 5. or 6. / 53 - probably

Dear Mr. May

At South Milford - it was agreed that part of the day should be given to the presentation of woman's rights. The meeting was well attended through the day - Antislavery Baptists and a very few Orthodox Congregationalists present. At the five o'clock service a collection was taken up for Anti-Slavery sufficient to pay the expenses of the Address that time. An account of these collections I shall keep for the Liberator. Whenever I fail to collect enough for my expenses I shall feel that my mission is proved.

I have spoken upon Anti-Slavery in Mr. Clark's meeting-house - he being present and ever treating me with courtesy. Have now written to him and shall depend upon his aid. About Hopton I feel sadly for I hear the most unfavorably rumors have been carried by Mr. Stacy perhaps, or some unfriendly person. Mr. Bellon advises me however, to go there and not fear. You will please write to any one you please for their opinion about my blame - I mean any one here. No person that I know of accuses me of intentional wrong - only that my confidence was too easily imposed upon, I have

sufficed. I cannot tell you how much, both on my
my own account, and for Harry's sake, and for
the sake of all. If you think the odour of the
affair, will bring a shadow upon Anti Slavery,
tell me freely - and what I do, I will do as
I have done, upon my own responsibility

Yours with great respect - A. H. Rice

Love to Mrs May

And hurriedly July 9. or 8. - advising her not to lecture as Agt. of Wore. Co. A.S.S.

Copy.

Leicester July 20 / 1853.

Dear Mr. Rice; I believe I said, when I last wrote to you (which was
hurriedly,) that I would write again. And although I sent you a message, thro' a letter I
was writing to Wm. H. Fish a few days since, yet I think it best to do as I at first designed, & write
to you directly. - Since I wrote to you last, I have had a conversation with Abby K. Foster.
I had every reason to believe
her to be your friend. It was she who first
proposed & advised that our
County A.S. Society should ^{invite} you to become a
Lecturing Agent for them; first
privately to me; and afterwards at a meeting
of the Exec. Committee. I felt
therefore that, in talking with her, I had at once
the judgment of a friend to yourself, and a friend to the Anti-Slavery cause. She had
then heard nothing about the unpleasant business at Hopedale; it was entirely new to her.
- I showed her your letter in the Practical Christian, and told her what I had heard,
from Hopedale people, about the matter. Her judgment was, that, until matters were
more fully cleared up, it was not best that you should continue lecturing for our
County Society. This, as you know, was my own opinion. - I have felt great
regret that the affair, as regards your own connexion with it, has not been
more clearly explained, I hoped that the last P.B. would have contained something
explicit. It is, at least, unfortunate for you, as I see the matter, that nothing more
definite has appeared in the P.B.

Mr. Abby H. Rice, Hopedale, Ms.

I am, with friendly regards, yours, &c.
(Signed) E. M. Jr.

P.S. I have felt no inclination, but rather a repugnance, on every account, to talking
with any others of the Committee about it, - and have now done so.